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# News Release

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## USFS Sierra National Forest Announces Public Meeting for Revised Forest Plan

**CLOVIS, CALIF., AUGUST 15, 2014—FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE.** The U.S. Forest Service, Sierra National Forest, today announced that in anticipation of releasing a Notice of Intent (NOI) at the end of this month, a set of meetings have been scheduled for each of the three national forests that are revising their forest plans. The public meeting for the Sierra National Forest is scheduled for:

- 6:00-8:00pm - Monday, September 15, Holiday Inn Fresno Airport, 5090 East Clinton Way, Fresno, CA 93727
- In addition to the primary meeting time noted above, there will be an additional one hour session from 5pm to 6pm, tailored specifically to provide information to those who provided comments to date; those who would like to know more about the comment process and an opportunity to speak one on one with forest staff on their particular area of interest.

The NOI will inform the public of the Forest Service's intent to prepare and develop an environmental impact statement (EIS) that, when completed, will revise forest plans for the Inyo, Sequoia and Sierra National Forests. The NOI will also have information on the purpose and need for this action along with the agency's proposed action. The final EIS will result in three separate Records of Decision and three separate forest plans. Forest Supervisors will remain the "responsible official" for making decisions on their specific forest plans.

The Sierra, Sequoia and Inyo are three of eight national forests that were selected as “early adopters,” meaning they will be the first forests to revise their land management plans using the new National Forest System Planning Rule, which was completed in 2012. The planning rule provides the framework for Forest Service land management plans across the nation.

Next month’s public meetings are part of the “scoping period” which gives the public a chance to tell the Forest Service what issues and concerns they think should be addressed in the EIS before the Forest Service begins drafting the document, and to provide written public comment regarding the NOI’s purpose and need, and its proposed action.

For more information regarding forest plan revisions, visit the Pacific Southwest Region’s planning website at: [www.fs.usda.gov/main/r5/landmanagement/planning](http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/r5/landmanagement/planning).

For forest-specific information, please contact that forest directly:

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**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if special assistance to participate in this meeting is needed, please contact the appropriate National Forest. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Forest Service to make reasonable arrangements.

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